

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Thursday, July 28, 2011

~ **Approved Minutes** ~

**Please note the minutes are a brief summary and
not a word for word transcription of events at this meeting.**

Larry Gasco Chairman, Presiding

I. Call to Order – Larry Gasco

- The meeting was called to order by Larry Gasco
- Roll Call – Canetana Hurd
Attendance recorded as follows:
Absent Excused: Greg Thompson, George Caballero, Carlos Sosa, Delores Huffman, and Phillip Chen
- Approval of Minutes – Larry Gasco
June 2011 minutes were unanimously approved.
MSC - Rabens/Perrou

II. Chairman's Report – Larry Gasco

- **MHC/SAAC Chairs Meeting** – The SAAC Chairs meeting was held June 12. Holly Kiger, Research Navigator for the new USC Office of Community Engagement presented the vision and mission of the new office. The Community Engagement partners with leading clinical and community organizations to address the needs of the urban population through education and training.

Yvette Townsend continues to work with SAAC chairs to standardize leadership and increase teleconference to outlining areas. The department executive management continues to review the mission statement.

- **Executive Committee Update** – The following action items will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting in September:
 1. DMH EMT and MHC Partnership
 2. Re-start Commissioner site visit tours
 3. Amend bylaws to create a Commissioner Emeritus (Helen Wolff) to be placed on the letterhead.
 4. Schedule offsite meeting in December at St. Barnabas Senior Center
 5. Schedule the wellness center staff at Northeast to present at the full Commission meeting.
 6. Review letter to Board on FY 2011-2012 goals

7. Request to have Dr. Southard inform DMH Providers, contract and directly operated of the Commission's oversight and responsibility role

III. DMH Report given by Dr. Marvin J. Southard, Director

- **Budget** – Dr. Southard reported DMH is putting its energy into augmenting direct services and enhancing clinic operations for the new fiscal year.
- **Health Reform** – The Health Way LA program is going extremely well. Dr. Southard commended Dr. Robin Kay and staff on their ability to implement and launch a program and meet its deadline of July 1. Enrollment in all Tiers is occurring; there is one minor adjustment in Tier 2 with visit requirements.
- **Public Policy** – Dr. Southard provided background on the change that involves mental health and alcohol and drug programs. The State Department of Mental Health will be addressing the future of mental health and alcohol and drug programs at statewide community meetings. The community will be invited to input on key issues about its future mission and structure. Dr. Southard recommends DMH move more into health care because by 2014 there will be hardly anyone not covered in Medi-Cal; also the change creates a better cash flow.
- **Inmates** – Los Angeles County will receive a total of 8,600 inmates released from state prison in increments of 500 per week starting October 28, 2011. The board appointed the LA County Chief Probation Officer to lead the transfer of prisoners and supervise treatment. The Sheriff is in charge of custody which is mainly at the jail facility in Castaic. The following mental health services will be available to the inmates:
 1. JMET (Jail Mental Evaluation Team) for crisis intervention
 2. Treatment – pending (screening, substance abuse, mental health disability or co-occurring disabilities)

Legislative Report – Susan Rajlal

Ms. Rajlal spoke on the transfer of Medi-Cal Administration. There is no change in the mental health eligibility benefits:

- AB 102 calls for the transfer of Medi-Cal state administration functions from mental health and alcohol and drug programs by July 2012.
- The stakeholder process and transition plan is due to legislature by October 2011.
- Proposal to also eliminate DMH and ADP will be further developed by the Administration and released in January 2012-13 state budget proposals.

Approximately 49 functions and programs will be impacted by the state transfer of Medi-Cal administration to county mental health agencies. Ms. Rajlal discussed a few of the functions in the mental health agencies:

- Licensing and certification
- Rehabilitation Centers
- Conservatorship
- Policy on Cultural Competency

IV. Commissioners' Reports

Barry Perrou – The Los Angeles County Suicide Prevention Network will sponsor the, *Saving Lives: The Suicide Prevention Summit* on September 7, 2011 at The California Endowment. Dr. Norman L. Farberow will be honored at the event. Dr. Perrou talked about Dr. Farberow's lifetime dedication to suicide prevention. Dr. Farberow is known internationally as the contemporary founder of modern suicidology. He has spent 50+ years in suicide research that essentially led to the development of the first telephone crisis hot line. Dr. Perrou submitted the following motion to recognize Dr. Farberow legacy to suicide prevention

MSC – Join Los Angeles County Suicide Prevention Network in honoring Dr. Normal L. Farberow at the Suicide Prevention Summit for his contribution developing the suicide prevention hotline. Askins/Gasco

Dr. Perrou also announced the Sheriff presented its Humanitarian Award to Deputy Greg Plamondon who has served 16 years on the Mental Health Evaluation Team.

Hayward McNeill – Mr. McNeill participated in the webinar session on statistics sponsored by the CIMH. Mr. McNeill researched the information from the webinar and discovered the statistics came from a 1999 report. He commented the data was outdated and unrelated.

Frank Baron – Mr. Baron made a request that commission schedule Dr. Shaner to present on medication.

Jerry Lubin – Mr. Lubin reported on the activities of the last SLT meeting. He also reported Gateways plans to restart conducting monthly planning meeting. Gateways continue to modify notifications to attendees when meetings are cancelled.

Larry Gasco – Mr. Gasco attended the TAY workgroup conducted by Dr. Robin Kay. He commended Dr. Kay for persistently maintaining an organized meeting and developing a significant level of trust among the group.

V. Community and SAAC Reports

LACCC (Los Angeles County Client Coalition) – Pam Inaba

Pam Inada announced LACCC wrote a letter to support mental health and substance abuse merger. LACCC has elected new officers and committees.

VI. Public Comments –

Larry Looney – Brief recap of conversation about “delusional thinking.”

Sawako Nitao – Invited everyone to SHARE organization especially WRAP.

Maria Tan – Announced Asian Hope and Recovery Conference on August 23, 2011 from 8:30 am to 4 pm at The California Endowment.

MC Harris – Participated in the Northeast Mental Health Clinic NAMI car wash on Saturday, July 21.

Barbara Wilson, Service Area 2 – Presented two questions to Dr. Southard; a) proxy parents, and b) supplemental rates

Mark Karmatz – Announced the alternatives conference and the California mental health protest.

VII. Meeting adjourned

NEXT MEETING LOCATION AND TIME

Thursday, September 22, 2011

12 – 2:30 pm

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

Room 739

500 West Temple Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Please contact the Commission office at (213) 738 4772 if you need more information

Minutes submitted by Canetana Hurd